

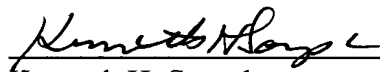
REMARKS

Upon entry of the instant amendment, claims 6-9 are pending in the application and claims 1-5 have been canceled, without prejudice. The purpose for filing the above-captioned application is to pursue the claims restricted out of co-pending parent application no. 09/571,435, filed May 15, 2000. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added, and respectfully request consideration and allowance of new claims 6-9, as set forth above.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required with respect to this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1135.

Respectfully submitted,
FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

Date: February 27, 2001


Kenneth H. Samples
Registration No. 25,747

120 South LaSalle Street, Suite 1600
Chicago, Illinois 60603
Telephone: (312) 577-7000
Facsimile: (312) 577-7007
RJF:EEC:255644